

Hope's Happenings

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH, ARCADE, NY

Volume 43, Issue 2: June & July 2015

From Pastor Bob

CONTACT

INFORMATION:

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Music Director:

Paul Blackwell

Parish Administrators:

**Carol Boldt
Margie Rung**

Youth Director:

Chris LiPuma

in this *issue*

Announcements

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Duty Roster

Whose Death is It Anyway?

Originally, I had planned to write to you about the importance of the caregiver keeping both a sense of humor as well as a sense of perspective. Well, the topic has to be changed because of recent events. Suddenly another topic has taken center stage. When death approaches the question must be asked: "Whose death is it anyway

A case in point is playing out right now in real time. Someone is dying. The family is dysfunctional. There are all kinds of acting-out taking place by both the care-giver and the patient. In the process each person is consumed by his or her grief and there seems to be no consideration that one will die and the other will walk away. Life happens while we are making plans. Hey, I don't make the rules.

Unless you've had experienced a brush with death, you can't understand how traumatic it is to be told that death is gaining on you. The mind locks in on this possibility, and keeps playing the message over and over again. It's a lonely time for the one needing care.

When the caregiver hears the final diagnoses, the Kubler-Ross Five Stages of Loss sets in: Denial, Anger, Bargaining, Depression and finally Acceptance. This can take place in varying degrees whether the loss is the death of a pet, the loss of a handbag, the Bills losing the Super Bowl, or end of life itself. Loss must be grieved by the caregiver but more so by the person facing the consequences of death. At times like these, the patient, loved one, the dependant –whatever that person is to you– must be the center of attention. While the care-giving parties will need support, they have the option of setting their grief aside for a later date. Focus is directed to the one carrying the heaviest load. Each party has to play out his or her role.

Caregivers should do what they can to make the afflicted one comfortable. Plans have to be made. Papers must be put in order. The patient should be treated normally but with increasing love and comfort. Tears can wait for later. The patient too has a duty to give back to the support people the love that has been directed toward her or him. Work hard to accept what, barring a miracle, is probably inevitable. Ease the physical and emotional workload of those acting in a support capacity.

For all parties, prayer is necessary and reliance on Faith must be kept alive; not just the faith of being healed, but the Faith in the limitless Grace of God that offers strength and comfort to all. For those connected to Hope Lutheran Church, help is available from the Pastor, the Care Pastor and members of the Care Committee. Avail yourself of it! Make use of it! Caregiver or patient, it is important to remember your place in life's final drama so that you can act with compassion.

Yours in the Love of Christ,

Pastor Bob

Worship Notes

Sunday, July 12

Worship at 9:15am

Commissioning for #DetroitSquad Youth and Adults

Sunday, July 19

Worship at 9:15am

Live Stream Coverage of Youth in Detroit from 8:30-11:30am

Sunday, August 16

Worship at 9:15am

VBS Celebratory Worship

Regular Worship Hours Returns:

Sunday, September 13

8am & 10:30am Worship

We Remember in Our Prayers

We pray for:

*Barbara Fehringer,
Matthew Nourse,
Ervin Niles,
Carmon Becker,
Kirk Crandall,
Roger Day,
Emily Richards,
Brennon McCormick,
Mary Maines,
Bill Strobele,
R.D. Knight,*

*Sharlie Mullin,
Hyland Day,
Anita McCaffrey,
Don Day,
Curt Emery,
Dennis Rung,
Laura Bley,
Larry Gilbert,
Isabelle Wagner,
Dan Lee,
Bob Brahaney,
Michael McGuinness,
Patti Zeller,*

*Gary Antonio,
Irene Gick,
Irv Dell,
Eileen Deahn,
Myrtle Rammacher,
Kevin Jones,
Pauline Brown,
Lois Melville,
Sam LaScala, Abby Aldrich,
Patti Zeller's granddaughter,
and Daryl Glasner-friend of Scott Sonner.*

We pray for all those who are struggling with drug and alcohol addictions and we also pray for the victims of all forms of abuse. We continue to keep our Servicemen and women who are serving at home and overseas in our prayers.



Thanks Be To God *for you!*

*Our council thanks the following people
for going above and beyond in the last months.*

A Very Special Thanks To All Who Adopted Projects This Spring For Our Make Your Own Workday. Especially:

Holly King and Brent Nowak who cleaned, organized, and sanitized the Nursery Room

Joanne Offers who weeded and edged the west garden beds

Margie, Gary, Matthew & Jessica Rung who donated the mini-fridge to the sacristy

Bob & Sharlene Vossler who cleaned and organized the Adult Bible Study Room

Brother's Keeper who cleaned out the garage and built new shelves.



Financial Update—2015 2nd Quarter

April 2015 Weekly Giving: **\$2,690**

April 2014 Weekly Giving: **\$2,640**

May 2015 Weekly Giving: **\$2,821**

May 2014 Weekly Giving: **\$2,368**

June 2015 Weekly Giving: **\$2,137**

June 2014 Weekly Giving: **\$2,210**

Operating expenses at Hope are based on \$2,500/week in giving. As you can see, compared to last year (and other years) we are slightly up through the first quarter of 2015. Thanks to your faithful giving we have been able to catch up from a slow summer and fall in 2014, and continue to invest in the many ministries God is calling us to right now. Please remember Hope as we start another summer here in WNY, and, as always, thank you for your contribution to God's work here at Hope and your expression of your own gratitude to God through your gift.

—Hope's Finance and Stewardship Committees



From Pastor Shawn:

“Neighbor Over Self”

I moved to SC in the summer of 2006 for seminary for two reasons:

1. A sense of adventure, and
2. The weather. Duh.

But what I discovered not long after I got there was that there was a third reason I ended up in SC. **God had led me there.** God led me to a state full of beautiful places and smiling faces (you just had to read the license plates). God led me to a state

where I was warmly received by a congregation that I still hold incredibly close to my heart. God led me to a community at Southern Seminary, one that included Clem Pinckney and

many other faithful, wonderful people longing to serve God in public ministry, that I was glad to call my family for years. God led me to a place where faith was still a part of life, where football coaches gladly cut kids from practice on Wednesday nights for youth groups, and where people took the Sabbath day seriously—they didn't even sell beer at grocery stores on Sundays for northerners who needed to watch the Bills' games. Crazy, I know. **God led me to a state with a heritage of hospitality and positivity and devotion.** I was glad to call it home.



Most of the time. There were times when the heritage and practice I experienced was sinful. Times where our history of slavery and segregation was being played out in the present. Times where I heard the young people in my youth group talk about people from Latin America like Donald Trump. Times where I witnessed parents praise the young man who is black and on the football team while looking with contempt on the young man who is black at the grocery store. Times where the diversity that made up the student body at Southern Seminary would separate on Sunday mornings to perpetuate what MLK, Jr. called the most segregated hour in America more than 50 years prior. Times where the 80 year old incredibly faithful woman I'd be talking to in the hospital would casually ask the nurses to make sure they aren't giving her 'black blood.' And in too many of those times, the confederate flag would be waving in the foreground.



I know I don't need to tell you that there has been a heated debate around the confederate flag these last weeks. Many look at the flag and see their heritage. They remember their ancestors who died fighting bravely under it. Like symbols have the power to do, many have attached a piece of their own identity to it. An attack on the flag, is an attack on them. For others it's not about the South necessarily, but no less important to them. The flag is about rebellion and a "red neck" life style. It's about what makes this country great, and all of our inherent and constitutional liberties. Either way, people who value the confederate flag just can't understand what the problem is.

So let me try to help.

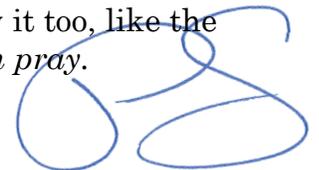
Just because something isn't offensive to you, does not mean it isn't offensive. And just because you can't see the racial tension, that does not mean it doesn't exist. And here's the kicker for people who claim to be Christian: what you think about the confederate flag doesn't matter as long as the flag oppresses your neighbor. Contrary to what we have been told, what we THINK is not nearly as important as how other people FEEL.

The Apostle Paul dealt with a different issue about the exact same thing. He was working with the Corinthian church that was split regarding the issue of food sacrificed to idols. On the one hand there were people who felt like food sacrificed to idols was fair game to eat, because, after all, there are no idols. So food sacrificed to something that doesn't exist is still just food. Bon appétit. But there were others who couldn't understand that. Who couldn't understand how any Christian could eat food that was laid on other gods' altars. Just watching Christians do so gave them great offense.

We know what 21st century Americans would say to this. Those people are perfectly entitled to eat whatever they want. They are not doing anything wrong, and it's not their problem if people get offended. But do you know what Paul said? **Do you know what the Bible says?** It says, as long as that food causes your neighbor distress, you should never, ever eat it (1 Corinthians 8:13), **because what you think about that food does not matter compared to how it affects your neighbor.**

So let me say it again, what we think about the confederate flag, comes second to how the flag makes our neighbor's feel. And the confederate flag, heritage and expression to you or not, is a symbol of white supremacy, slavery, and segregation to too many of our neighbors. So it's time to take it down.

And here's the good news, the South in the end isn't losing a piece of heritage, it's making room for the actual heritage it's always had and that has always mattered more. The heritage that received this northerner years ago, and made me never want to leave. The history of welcome and hospitality. The ability to see the bright side and assume the best. The resiliency to bounce back and never give up. The faithfulness to put God first, and caring for our neighbor next. The reverence and obedience to pay more than lip service to what God commands. And maybe when there's more room for that heritage to show it too, like the confederate flag, will become more than a Southern thing as well. *We can pray.*





Red Cross Blood Drive

The next Blood Drives will be Tuesday, July 21 from 11:30-5:30pm. We can always use extra volunteers to offer hospitality and keep things running smoothly. Contact Tracey Wood if available (716-867-4333)



Care Givers Support Group

Care Givers Support Group will take a recess from meeting for the summer. They look forward to starting back up on the last Thursday of September. We gather to care for those who care for others, to listen, and to share both our experience and our support.



Church Council

Church Council will meet on the Wednesday, August 5th for a mid-year report and summer picnic at Pastor Shawn's house. If you have anything you'd like Church Council to be aware of or discuss, please let PS or Bob Vossler (716-496-8967) know.

Archery

The Archery Crew will take place on Tuesday nights here at Hope with a rain date of Wednesday starting at 6:30pm. Bring your own equipment or borrow from our stash. No experience is necessary.



Quilt Raffle and Show

Hope's Quilt, "Meadow Stars," made and hand quilted by the Quilters of Hope, is finished and now on display at Creekside Fabrics and Quilts in Arcade. There will be a drawing for this quilt at our Quilt Show this Fall, Fri-Sun, Oct. 2-4. Please help out by buying and selling tickets for the quilt. They are available on the table in the parish hall & in the church office.





Emergency Fund

Every week those in need in our community come to Hope in search of help. When able we help them by directly addressing their needs. We do so using a combination of our own emergency funds, the PAC food pantry, and the red kettle money collected by the Salvation Army at TOPS each Christmas season. Currently our own internal Emergency Funds have been run out. It's easy to think of others at Christmas, but hunger and poverty don't take a summer vacation. Please consider donating to this account.

VBS

Vacation Bible School is a service we hope to provide for the children of our community as a part of our mission without a cost. In order to do so we rely on snacks, supplies and monetary donations. Stay tuned for ways you can donate to this year's VBS and thank you for your faithful support.

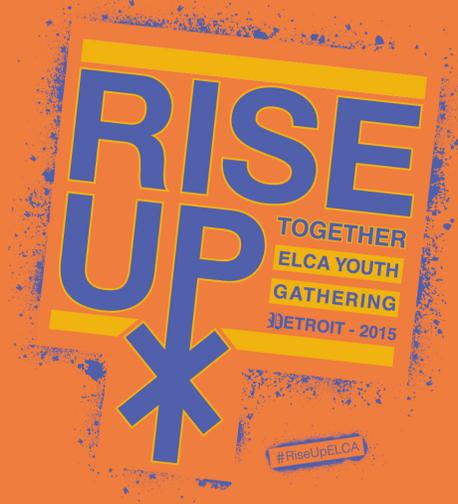


Youth Detroit

Our Youth are Headed to Detroit!

At long last our youth are headed to Detroit. We cannot thank you enough for your support, encouragement, appetite, and donations to date. You've helped us raise nearly \$12,000 to send our youth to Detroit for a week of learning, service, and fun. They will experience the love of God, and the smart money says they are going to share it as well.

Now there is only one thing left for you to do for our youth in Detroit: PRAY.



Travel Prayers:

Please hold them in prayer. They leave Hope for Detroit on Tuesday, July 14 at 8am. They will be traveling all day on Tuesday and all day back on Monday, July 20. Please pray for safe travel.

Program Prayers:

From Wednesday, July 15 through Sunday, July 19 they will be participating in the Gathering. Please pray that they might be formed in their faith, both comforted and challenged by the good news, and strengthened to be the body of Christ in their service.

Commissioning Prayer:

On Sunday, July 12 at the end of worship, our youth will come forward and be sent to Detroit with our blessing. If you bought a BuffaLutheran T-Shirt please wear it this day. You don't want to miss it.

Worship Prayer:

On Sunday, July 19 while our youth are in Detroit worshiping in Ford Field, we will have the service streaming live onto the television in the parish hall. It will start at 8:30am and end at approximately 11:30am. Our regular worship will happen as usual.

Stock Holders Dinner

When our youth return from Detroit, they will hold their stockholders dinner on Thursday, August 27 at 6pm. All stockholders are invited to attend an evening of delicious food, brilliant service, and a program highlighting our trip to Detroit that you can't put into words. RSVPs and formal invitations will be mailed to stockholders in early August.



Please keep the following youth
in your prayers this summer as they head to camp:

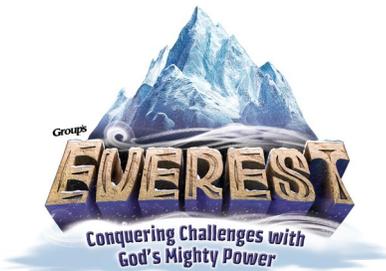
Name	Date	Program
Evan Frazier	June 28-July 4	Horse Camp
Kaitie Wood	June 28-July 11	RATS
Amanda Prior	June 28-July 4	Youth Camp
Clara Gross	July 5-July 8	Mini Camp
Emily Frazier	July 5-July 11	Sailing Camp
Emily Prior	July 5-July 11	Sailing Camp
Sydney Schrock	July 19-July 25	Youth Camp
Tomi Cordz	July 19-July 25	Youth Camp
Catherine Brown	July 19-July 25	Youth Camp
Nick Rimbey	July 19-July 25	Youth Camp
Zach Rimbey	July 19-July 25	Youth Camp
Brianna Cordz	July 19-July 25	Youth Camp
Megan Sonner	July 26-August 1	Senior High Week
Kaitie Wood	July 26-August 1	Senior High Week
Emily Prior	July 26-August 1	Senior High Week
Bradley Schrock	July 26-August 1	Senior High Week
<i>Chris LiPuma</i>	<i>July 26-August 1</i>	<i>Senior High Week</i>
<i>Pastor Shawn</i>	<i>July 26-August 1</i>	<i>Senior High Week</i>
Anna Sonner	August 2-August 8	Night Owls
Amanda Prior	August 2-August 8	Night Owls
Cora Blackwell	August 2-August 8	Night Owls
Helena Blackwell	August 2-August 8	Night Owls

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Confirmation

Confirmation classes for the 2015-2016 School Year will begin on Wednesday, September 16 with orientation. All 7th graders and their parents are encouraged to attend with returning confirmands in grades 8 & 9. We will meet at 7pm in the sanctuary.

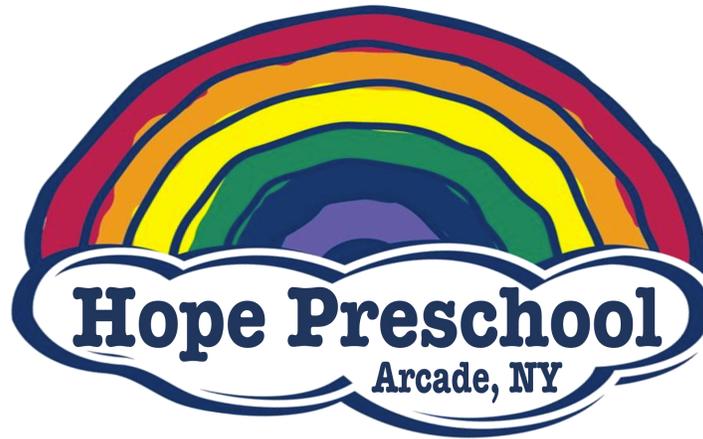
Vacation Bible School Monday, August 10-Thursday, August 13 5:30-8:00pm



VBS will kick off here at Hope from Monday, August 10-Thursday August 13 from 5:30-8pm each night. We will gather for games, art projects, Bible stories, and songs. Each night will include a snack. Children 2 years old to 6th grade are encouraged to attend, and youth in grades 7th and up are encouraged to volunteer. We are always in need of adult volunteers and monetary donations to offset the cost of the programming. Stay tuned for more ways you can help.

Amanda Prior, Evan Frazier,
& Kaitie Wood at camp this
summer!





We had a GREAT 2014-15 school year! We enjoyed our partnership with friends from SaSi, who were able to make it for graduation, and look forward to partnering with them again next year.

We've started enrolling for the 2015-16 school year and already have 7 children fully registered! By mid-August we hope to have a full class of 18 students. Wouldn't it be great if we could enroll 24 students and hire another teacher?! Registrations are available through the church office, please spread the word!

We appreciate your continued support of our financial assistance program. We are able to offer our program to families that can't afford full tuition because of that support. Donations can be placed in the Sunday offering plate or mailed to the church, clearly labeled "Preschool financial assistance program".

I thank God for continuing to bless me with this program and all that I've learned from it. Thank you for trusting me to be your preschool director! This will be my 10th year with HOPE!

Blessings,
Chris Kipfer, Director



Youth Sunday

June 14, 2015

HOPE'S HAPPENINGS!



Our youth
playing
&
working
this spring.



Pastor Shawn led the community baccalaureate service for graduating seniors on Thursday, June 25 at the High School Auditorium. The service was well attended and profoundly moving for who attended. God was glorified as over 30 seniors were sent off. Mr. Roll gave the message. Pastor Bob Zimmerman led us in our thanksgiving remembrance. Paul Blackwell, Carol Hannon, Kaitie Wood and Emily Prior led us in song.



Brother's Keeper cleaned out the church garage with Brother's Keeper, Jr (aka Bradley Schrock and Pastor Shawn) helped Mrs. Strobele by painting her shed.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.

Celebrations!

Birthdays

JULY

1—Sharlene Vossler
1—Melissa Rhodus
1—Trevor Bley

2—Pat Cady

2—Kate King

2—Madeline Cicero

3—Barb Boyer

3—Grace Tavernier

6—Jeanne Schuler

7—Lisa Deahn

7—Dana Gates

8—Chuck Bradford

8—Sandi Bennett

9—Tyler Sanders

9—Ashlee King

10—Sheri Landahl

10—Holly King

13—Johanna Fuller

20—Louie Boyer

22—Geoff Gross

23—Jerry Schuler

23—Ken Babbitt

23—Dale Deahn

24—Cole Rhodus

25—Evelyn Schrock

JULY cont'd

29—Megan Boldt

30—Addison Woodruff

AUGUST

2—Damin Rautenstrauch

8—Mary Lou Merlau

9—Olivia Sisson

11—Jordan Fehringer

12—Pat Lindberg

12—Lauren Schwab

13—Rachel Kittleson

15—Julie Tingue

16—Sophia Cordz

18—Andy Bartz

19—Scott Bley

21—Tyler Bley

22—Kristin Bley

22—John Holmes

25—Judy Strobele

27—Liam Maul

28—Pam Bradford

29—Bob Buchhardt

29—Brent Scoins

30—Carol Boldt

30—Zachery Rimbey

31—McKenzie Celotto

AUGUST cont'd

31—Eric Rautenstrauch

Anniversaries

JULY

3—Jim & Mary Alpin

10—Chuck & Pam Bradford

13—Marv & Kathy Zielonka

15—Mike & Pat Cady

16—Dave & Debbie Carr

20—Lloyd & Caroline Nea-

20—Len & Sue Dressel

20—Scott & Tracy Stiles

25—Pat & Diana Hoffman

31—Dan & Heather Petri

AUGUST

6—Joe & Stephanie Cicero

8—Al & Carol Boldt

16—Geoff & Stephanie Milks

18—Dale & Lisa Deahn

19—Irv & Mary Dell

21—Lee & Missy Rhodus

22—Louie & Barb Boyer

26—Bob & Sharlene Vossler

28—Scott & Tiffany Lambert

30—Bob & Barb Phair

Date	July 5	July 12	July 19	July 26	
<i>Acolyte 8am</i>	One Service 9:15	One Service 9:15	One Service 9:15	One Service 9:15	
<i>10:30am</i>	CatherineBrown Madisen Sonner	Kyler Felber Ashley Bliss	Brianna Cordz Alyssa Boldt	Anna Tavernier Riley Bliss	
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Carol Staffehl Margie Rung	Carol Boldt	Sue Dressel Judy Strobele	Jim and Mary Alpin	
<i>HC Assistant 8am</i>	9:15	9:15	9:15	9:15	
<i>10:30am</i>	Jen Blackwell	Kathryn Landahl	Kristin Bley	Lisa Deahn	
<i>Cong. Deacon 8am</i>	9:15	9:15	9:15	9:15	
<i>10:30am</i>	Margie Webster	Bob Vossler	Sheri Landahl	Joanne Offers	
<i>Greeters (10:30)</i>	Al and Carol Boldt	Carol Staffehl	Mike and Pat Cady	Andy and Ashley Bartz	
<i>Lector 8am</i>	9:15	9:15	9:15	9:15	
<i>10:30am</i>	Kim Offers	Katie Bennett	Matt Rung	Carol Staffehl	
<i>Prayers 8am</i>	9:15	9:15	9:15	9:15	
<i>10:30am</i>	Kathryn Landahl	Kaitie Wood	Sharlene Vossler	Judy Strobele	
<i>Ushers (10:30)</i>	Len Dressel Sue Dressel	Melissa Pleace Lauren Pleace	Carol Staffehl Kathy LaScala	Al Boldt Kim Offers	
<i>Coffee Hour</i>	10:15 J.Buchhardt	10:15 S. Vossler	10:15 Ashley Bartz	10:15 Kim Boldt	
<i>Nursery (10:30)</i>					
	August 2	August 9	August 16	August 23	August 30
<i>Acolyte 8am</i>	One Service 9:15	One Service 9:15	One Service 9:15	One Service 9:15	One Service 9:15
<i>10:30am</i>	James Rautenstrauch Alyssa Boldt	Timmy Sonner Eric Rautenstrauch	Tyler Bley Jesse Polcz	Madisen Sonner Payeton Burfield	Anna Tavernier Evan Frazier
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Carol Staffehl Margie Rung	Carol Boldt	Sue Dressel Judy Strobele	Jim and Mary Alpin	Carol Staffehl Margie Rung
<i>HC Assistant 8am</i>	9:15	9:15	9:15	9:15	9:15
<i>10:30am</i>	Scott Bley	Marcia Davies	Chris LiPuma	Joanne Offers	Sheri Landahl
<i>Cong. Deacon 8am</i>	9:15	9:15	9:15	9:15	9:15
<i>10:30am</i>	Chris LiPuma	Jerry Schuler	Gary Rung	Margie Webster	Bob Vossler
<i>Greeters (10:30)</i>	Jim and Mary Alpin	Kim and Joanne Offers	Bob and Sharlene Vossler	Judy Feine	Gary and Margie Rung
<i>Lector 8am</i>	9:15	9:15	9:15	9:15	9:15
<i>10:30am</i>	Tim Sonner	Helena Blackwell	Carol Staffehl	Julie Tingue	Dale Deahn
<i>Prayers 8am</i>	9:15	9:15	9:15	9:15	9:15
<i>10:30am</i>	Matt Rung	Paul Rigerman	Kathryn Landahl	Sue Dressel	Kim Offers
<i>Ushers (10:30)</i>	Scott Rimbey Dale Deahn	Jim Alpin Len Dressel	Kim Offers Al Boldt	Melissa Pleace Lauren Pleace	Carol Staffehl Kathy LaScala
<i>Coffee Hour</i>	10:15 Kelly Frazier	10:15 M. Pleace	10:15 Judy Strobele	10:15 Margie Rung	10:15 Carol Boldt
<i>Nursery (10:30)</i>					

In everything there is hope.

5:30-8pm

8/10-13

VBS



HOPE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

2 East Main Street
Arcade, New York
14009-1335

Address Service Requested

This newsletter was prepared especially for: